

North Haven Public Schools

North Haven, Connecticut 06473

North Haven Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting

Minutes

Regular Meeting/Special Meeting
Thursday, October 8, 2015 6:30 p.m.
5 Linsley Street, North Haven, CT 06473

Attendance: Wesley O'Brien, Randi Petersen, Bryan Bogen, Jennifer Caldwell, Jennifer Cecarelli, Goldie Adele, Matthew Kerzner, Dorothy Logan, Kristine Carling, Director of Business, Operations and Human Resources, Melinda McKenna, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and Robert D. Cronin, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

Anita Anderson was absent.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Consent Agenda
 1. Minutes September 10, 2015
 2. Retirement of Patricia Bingham, Latin Teacher at North Haven High School. Retiring at the end of the 2015-2016 school year

Dr. Cronin stated that Mrs. Bingham has been in North Haven for 35 years, and will be missed. She was greatly beloved by both students and faculty/staff.

Moved: to approve the Consent Agenda

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Goldie Adele
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

- III. Board of Education Student Representatives Reports

Information Item

Larissa reported:

- Celeste Battitaglia will be the Board's new junior representative
- Community service approval process – proposal to make some changes
- Excused absences – clarification
- Student evaluations for teachers - proposal

- IV. Report of the Board of Education Chairperson or Designee

Information Item

Dr. O'Brien reported:

- Condolences to Dorrie and Melissa Bimonte on the loss of their husband/father John Bimonte

- V. Unfinished Business
- VI. New Business

VII. Reports of Standing Committees

1. ACES

Information Item

Mrs. Logan reported:

- Three members from the SDE, were in attendance. They were part of the focus group for the State Strategic Plan and gave a 90 minute presentation
- ACES adopted the regional calendar 2016-2017

2. Athletics

Information Item

Mrs. Petersen reported:

- October 23rd there will be a baseball recognition ceremony and it is also John Liquori Night
- Coaching award was given to Anthony Sagnella for his 100th win
- Girls volleyball team having "pink night" proceeds going to the "sister project" as well as a scholarship given to a senior student who lost a parent to cancer last year
- Donation – Suzie Crerar who lost her husband last year, wanted to purchase uniforms for the MS boys and girls basketball team.
- Mr. Petronio put together a monthly Athletic Newsletter
- Concession Stand at Vanacore Field – discussion regarding clubs running the concession stand
- Field improvements - \$500,000 STEAP grant awarded which will provide a field house complex for Vanacore Field
- Discussion regarding two new proposed stipends: varsity soccer team needs an assistant coach, and the Middle School girls' soccer team needs a female coach added. These will be further discussed during budget workshops
- Next Meeting November 3, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Motion: to add action item to agenda:

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Cecarelli
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Motion: to approve donation of Middle School boys and girls basketball uniforms from Mrs. Crerar in memory of her husband.

MOVED: Jennifer Caldwell
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Planning

Information Item

Mrs. McKenna reported:

- Curriculum, Instruction and Planning did not meet due to the funeral services of Mr. Bimonte. It has been re-scheduled for October 26, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. which will combine the October and November Meeting.
- There have been two training sessions with The Teachers College Writing Project at Clintonville and Montowese this past week. Mrs. McKenna and Dr. Cronin were able to sit in on the Grade 1 Session

at Clintonville, as well at Montowese. Mrs. McKenna said it was dynamite. Trainers for Grades 3, 4, and 5 will come to North Haven later this month.

- SBAC student results being sorted by buildings and getting ready to distribute to students sometime in October.
- Mrs. McKenna shared email from Mrs. Dowling, Clintonville Principal regarding the full time Math Coach at Clintonville and how impressed she was with the Math Coach, thanking Mrs. McKenna and Dr. Cronin for getting math coaches into the schools.

4. Finance and Operations

Information Item

Mr. Bogen reported:

- Running a deficit in Special Education and Transportation, which will be covered, to some extent, with Excess Cost Grant which will be received later in the year.
- Title I Title II funds are being decreased for the second year in a row. It has averaged about 10% per year. Mrs. McKenna and Mrs. Carling have been meeting regarding these cuts, and planning for next year's budget.

5. Middle School Building Committee

Information Item

Mr. Adele reported:

- Decisions on "alternate list" being made such as side roofing, ceiling tiles and other cosmetic issues
- Redoing lines for the busses
- Next meeting will be November 2, 2015
- Suggested the Board of Education to come for a site visit.

6. North Haven Education Foundation

Information Item

Mr. Kerzner reported:

- No Report

7. Policy

Ms. Caldwell reported

- Saturday, October 24th proposed for a Policy Workshop to review the 4000 Series
- 6000 and 7000 remain to be done

8. PTA Council

Information Item

Mrs. Cecarelli reported:

- Fundraising has begun throughout the district
- PTA back to school family fun nights were well attended
- Book Fairs scheduled
- October 24, 2015 Town-wide Make a Difference Day
Some of the projects include: Ridge Road sprucing up their entry way and
Middle School- sprucing up their courtyard
- Would like a list of board members and their assigned "Adopt-a-School with an email address that the public can contact you.
- Next meeting October 19, 2015 at NHHS at 7 p.m. in Library

VIII. Staff Communications

A. Superintendent's Report

Information Item

Dr. Cronin reported:

1. Enrollment Numbers

Information Item

- District from September to October has dropped 1
- Lost 5 students at Green Acres and a couple at the Middle School

2. Program Development Plan

Information Item

- The Program Development Plan is an overview of what is being done in the District this year. Dr. Cronin reviewed some of the items in the Program Development Plan

3. Schedule for the Administration of the PSAT

Information Item

- The 11th grade test for districts is going to be the SAT. SBAC is no longer being done in the 11th grade and all 11th graders will be taking SATs in place of the SBAC. This year the 10th and 11th graders are taking the PSAT on October 14th from 7:30-11 a.m.
- High School is proposing freshman and seniors will report to school @10:15 Teachers will be available to help senior students with their applications and essays, and the Freshman will take part in a workshop "What I Wish I knew as a Freshman".

4. School Highlights

Information Item

- NHHS – The new Tier III and Freshman Seminar has begun
- NHMS Clubs – Computer Coding Club, Chess Club, Be a Hero Club, Culture Club, Science Fair Club, Sketchbook Club, School Newspaper Club, and a Yearbook Club
- NHMS – assembly on internet and social media
- Clintonville - Professional Development

B. Assistant Superintendent's Report

Information Item

1. Approval of Nature's Classroom Field Trip
May 16, 2016-May 20, 2016

Moved: to approve the Nature's Classroom Field trip,
May 16, 2016-May 20, 2016

Approved

MOVED: Bryan Bogen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 7
NAY: 1
ABSTAIN: 0

Mrs. Caldwell voted against Natures Classroom

C. Director of Finance and Operations

1. Director of Finance and Operation's Report
2. Approval of the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Information Item

Moved: to approve the 2015-2016 Monthly Financial Report

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Randi Petersen
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

IX. Public Comment

- Carol Ladoor commented regarding assessments and perhaps additional study workshops for the Middle School students just like freshman

X. Future Agenda Items

Discussion Item

- Natures classroom
- Athletic Stipends
- Fields

XI. Executive Session – for matters of personnel

Moved: to go into Executive Session for matters of personnel and invite Kristine Carling into executive session

Approved

MOVED: Randi Petersen
SECOND: Matthew Kerzner
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Returned to public session at 8:55 p.m.

XII. Adjournment

Moved: to Adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

Approved

MOVED: Matthew Kerzner
SECOND: Jennifer Caldwell
AYE: 8
NAY: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley O'Brien

Wesley O'Brien
Vice Chairman